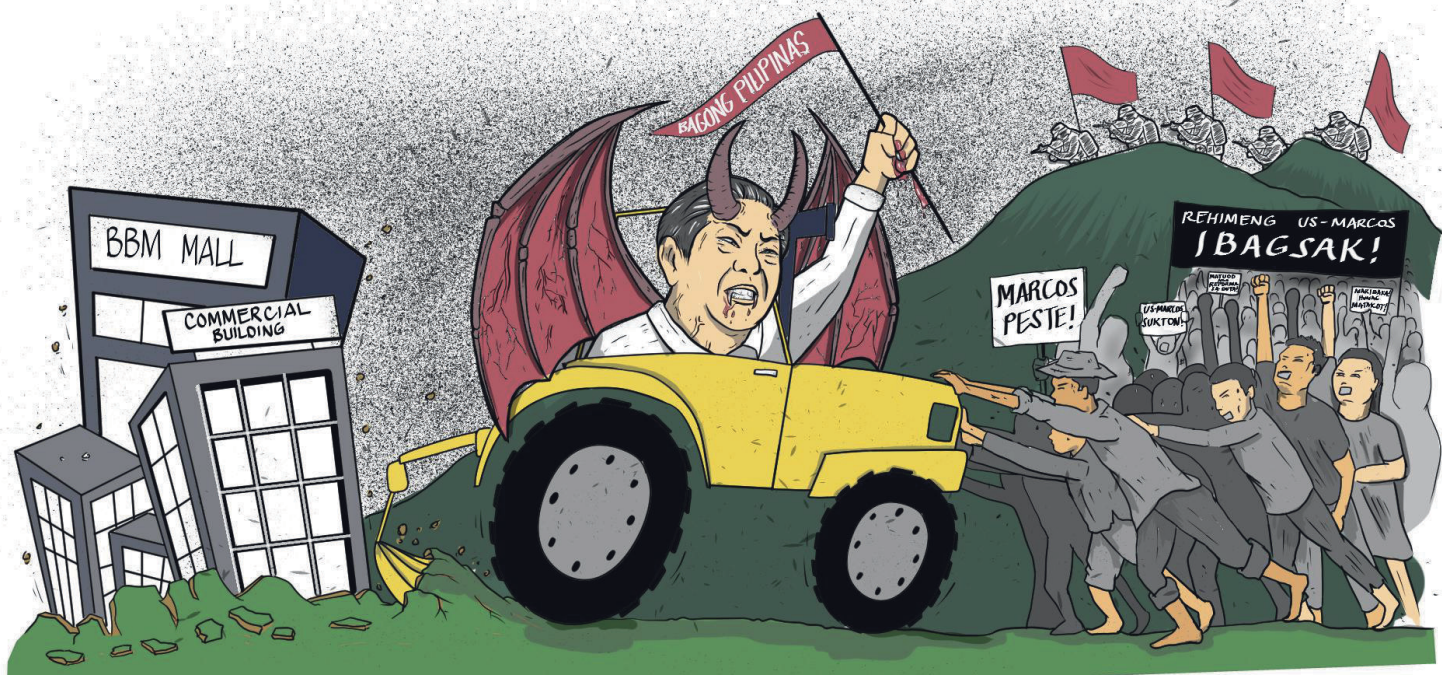


EDITORIAL

# Fake land reform legitimizes land monopoly and feudalism



NEGROS ISLAND IS THE CENTER of comprador-landlords. Widespread neoliberal policies have transformed the island into a giant business that effectively converts agricultural land for commercial use. Bureaucrats and government agencies facilitated land reconcentration in favor of comprador-landlords and the entry of neoliberal projects. Marcos Jr only worsened the land problem and made farmers more vulnerable to feudal and semifeudal exploitation.

The SPLIT (Support to Parcelization of Land for Individual Titling) program funded by the World Bank, like its predecessors Comprehensive Agrarian Reform

Program (CARP) and Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms (CARPER) of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), alongside the New Agrarian Emancipation Act (NAEA) exposed the role of the bureaucracy, often dominated by big landlords, in legitimizing land-grabbing through various legal schemes and loopholes.

Due to the extreme reality of expensive farming and cheap farm gate prices, poor peasants, comprising the majority of the population, unwittingly hand over their land to the hands of those in power.

According to recent data from DAR Region 6, there is a

total of 229,155 hectares in Negros Occidental earmarked for land reform since 1972. Currently, there are still 28,144 hectares of undistributed land. It is already a small percentage at first glance, and it seems like an accomplishment for the reactionary government. But behind the fantastic data is the increasing number of ARBs who no longer own their land. In 2013, 70 percent of lands owned by ARB in Negros Occidental returned to the control of big landlord-compradors.

Through land use conversion and reclassification, reac-

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"Fake..." from page 1

tionary agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and National Commission of Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) have become brokers for the entry of foreign and local businesses in forestal and ancestral land and eviction of farmers and indigenous peoples from their communities in exchange for kickbacks and profit.

Already two years into power, the US-Marcos II regime introduced and promoted big comprador-landlord and imperialist businesses in Negros Island that diminished the livelihood of several millions of Negrosanons, both in cities and the countryside. Negros Island has been flooded with coastal reclamation projects that dislodge urban poor communities, destructive mines and quarries, ecotourism and agribusiness, commercial reforestation, among others.

During the *El Niño* phenomenon and the recent Kanlaon Volcano eruption, the lackluster relief aid and preparation of the reactionary government further pushed farmers towards landlessness and poverty. The *tiempos muertos* became perpetual instead of only lasting for a few months. On top of this is the continuing state terrorism throughout Negros

where seven battalions of the Philippine Army under the 302nd and 303rd Brigade and three battalions and special forces (Special Action Force, Regional Mobile Force, and Regional Public Safety) of the Philippine National Police (PNP) have been deployed on the island to serve as mercenaries and butchers of the ruling class against the masses.

To remedy the worsening land problem, the people's democratic revolution looks to its economic program that is genuine land reform and national industrialization. The implementation of land reform in the minimum means land rent reduction and elimination of usury, raising wages and product prices, and land cultivation areas, while the maximum is confiscating land from landlords and distributing it back to the farmers. Without this, semi-colonial and semi-feudal conditions will remain import-dependent and export-oriented. The country, including Negros Island, will remain a cog in the imperialist machine and achieving liberation and sovereignty will be difficult.

It is imperative that revolutionary mass organizations of peasants, alongside other democratic sectors, unite with the New People's Army to conduct anti-feudal mass struggles, carry out agrarian revolution in the countryside and resist the ongoing

neoliberal offensive of the Marcos II regime.

The historical necessity and inevitability of the armed struggle remains. In the situation where neoliberalism and state fascism launch an all-out push to deny the peasant class of their right to till and own the land, only the barrel of the gun can reverberate the call of the exploited and oppressed for genuine liberation, democracy, and lasting peace. *AP*



JUNE 2024

## *ANG Paghimakas*

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*AP* Kaundan

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## #NPANegrosOffensives

# Red fighters harass 2 military patrol bases



RED FIGHTERS OF THE LEONARDO Panaligan Command-Central Negros Guerrilla Front (LPC-NPA) mounted two successive harassment operations against 62nd IB patrol bases in May.

These occurred on May 24, 9:00 in the evening at the patrol base of the said military troop in Brgy. Malangsa, Vallehermoso, and on May 27, 6:30 in the evening in Brgy. Hinakpan, Guihulngan City, all of Negros Oriental.

According to JB Regalado, LPC-NPA spokesperson, this was in response to the demand for justice by families of victims of the killings by the AFP, PNP, and paramilitaries and the widespread militarization of the countryside.

Regalado added that said military actions of the NPA are "contrary to the repeated lies of BGen. Orlando Edralin of the 303rd Brigade and MGen. Marion Sison of the 3rd ID alongside their spin doctors that guerrilla fronts on the island have been 'dismantled.'"

Meanwhile, not less than four soldiers of the 11th IB were killed-in-action in the counteroffensive by a unit of the Rachelle Mae Palang Command-Southeast Negros Guerrilla Front (RMPC-NPA) against the said troops on January 18 in Sitio Sugong, Brgy. Milagrosa, Sta. Catalina, Negros Oriental. The RMPC-NPA also honored Ka Rustom (Edmar Solano) who was martyred in that encounter.

The NPA has also mounted 18 military actions and punitive actions within six months. It confiscated seven firearms, ammunition and military equipment.

### Rapists punished

LPC-NPA operatives punished Ronel Fuentes, 33 years old, from Brgy. Guba, Vallehermoso last January 22, 1:30 in the afternoon, for raping his siblings in 2009.

Fuentes raped his sister (a minor at the time) several times within only two weeks after

physically assaulting her. He also raped his other sister who was mute that resulted in the victim's depression which ended in suicide. Meanwhile, the third sister who he planned to take advantage of was able to escape. Fuentes threatened his sisters that they will be killed if they report what he did. Fuentes also physically abuses his wife during marital arguments.

The LPC-NPA also meted the death penalty on Arman Binalo-ac, 38 years old, married and with children, from Sitio Naube, Brgy. Puso, La Castellana, Negros Occidental, last May 9, 7:30 in the evening. Binalo-ac was charged in the revolutionary people's court for the rape of his relative in 2005. The NPA still tried to talk to Binalo-ac yet he denied his crime despite evidences provided by the victim and witnesses. **AP**

# 74 cases of military human rights violations from April to June

IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF this year, six farmers were killed by forces of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Philippine National Police (PNP) and its paramilitaries on Negros island. This is part of 74 cases of human rights violations committed by reactionary state forces involving over 5,500 victims (including 1,345 children) from April to June.

The 62nd IB covered up with a fake encounter the murder of two farmers in Brgy. Quintin Remo, Moises Padilla, Negros Occidental namely Marlon Catacio, 24 years old, killed in Sitio Ngalan last April 4, and Richard Dela Peña, 50 years old, murdered in Sitio Inangaw last May 21. They were subjected to interrogation and torture before being killed. They were alleged to be either members or supporters of the New People's Army (NPA). Meanwhile, the 62nd IB and its agents killed farmer and barangay councilor Reynaldo Jacolbe in Brgy. Puso, La Castellana, Negros Occidental last May 1. Jacolbe was on his way to his farm aboard a motorcycle when armed men open fired at him.

Three farmers were also victims of killings last May in Calatrava, Negros Occidental. Elements of the 79th IB and its paramilitaries killed Fructoso 'Otoy' Patubay, 63 years old, in Brgy. Laga-an last May 2 and Jigger Bartolo, 43 years old, in Brgy Hilub-ang last May 30. Patubay was tending to his carabao when he was killed. Meanwhile, Bartolo was red-tagged by the aforementioned military since 2019 and was presented as a 'surrenderee' after being summoned, interrog-

ated, and intimidated several times. Similarly, the 79th IB claimed that Jeje Redobles was an 'NPA casualty killed in an encounter' last May 22 in Brgy. Cambayobo. Redobles had long been red-tagged by the military and was recruited several times by the 79th IB to become their intelligence asset against the NPA and the revolutionary movement.

After the killing of Patubay, the 79th IB threatened to kill his relatives through a fake Facebook account with the NPA logo. The said military also spread rumors about a ₱10,000 bounty for every killed red-tagged civilian in Brgy. Hilub-ang.

In Don Salvador Benedicto, Negros Occidental, brothers Adonis Alforque, 16 years old, and Jonidel Alforque, 17 years old, were illegally arrested by combined troops of the 79th IB and Negros Occidental Police Mobile Force Company (1st NOCPMFC) in Sitio Humayan, Brgy. Pino-wayan on April 25. They were paraded as "child warriors." Ka Cecil Estrella, RJPC-NPA spokesperson, clarified that there were no Red fighters in the area and "they strictly follow the NPA's rules and the memorandum of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee on the requirement that all Red fighters be at least 18 years old."

Still in the month of May, 79th IB elements threatened to kill small businessmen, small planters, and residents of four barangays of Calatrava if

Continue "74 cases..." on page 5



# Armyworm infestation in Negros Occidental worries farmers

HOPES OF SMALL FARMERS IN Negros Occidental to recover after the *El Niño* phenomenon were replaced by fear and worry due to armyworm infestation, according to Felicidad Mercado, spokesperson of the Pambansang Katipunan ng mga Magbubukid (PKM)-Negros.

According to recent data from the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA), armyworms

have already infested 923.5 hectares throughout Negros Occidental affecting over 1,429 farmers. The most affected are 307 hectares of sugarcane fields and corn fields in Himamaylan City, while 245 hectares of corn fields in Isabela, Binalbagan, and Moises Padilla are also infested.

*Continue "Armyworm..." on page 6*



*"74 cases..." from page 4*

they do not agree to the repeated extortion by said military troop. Residents are forced to report to the military detachment regarding NPA presence and are threatened to be killed or buried alive if they do not do so; their bags and packed food are also checked when they go to their farms.

In Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental, 94th IB elements indiscriminately fired at mountainous parts of Barangay Carol-an (Lower) on May 6 in the afternoon and declared that they encountered a unit of the Mt. Canseron Command South Central Negros Front (MCC-NPA). Ka Dionesio Magbuelas, MCC-NPA spokesperson, called the 94th IB a liar for spreading fake news and clarified that there was no encounter in that area and no NPA presence at the time. After the fake encounter, the 94th IB forced the evacuation of over 400 residents from three sitios of Brgy. Carol-an.

In Sitio Cabagal, Brgy. Buenavista, Himamaylan City, Negros Occidental, last June 7, at 2:00 in the morning, doors of seven houses of farmers were destroyed after being kicked by

the 94th IB along with elements of the Citizen Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU). Troops woke up the households but residents did not open the door because of fear that what the said troops did to the massacred Fausto family will happen to them. Afterwards, the 94th IB soldiers and CAFGU forced Leo de Baguio to lead them towards their detachment but he refused because he was worried of what might happen to him.

On April 3, the 94th IB barred members of the Baclayan, Bito, Cabagal Farmers and Farm Workers Association (BABICAFFA) from cutting sugarcane in their communal farm. The said military alleged that the farm belongs to the NPA. More than 10 tons were already cut and these were abandoned by the sugarcane cutters due to fear.

Furthermore, the 15th IB continued to militarize peasant communities in Cauayan town, Negros Occidental from the previous year up to now. Soldiers encamped in barangay halls, schools, and farmers' homes in barangays Caliling, Yao-yao, and Masaling under the guise of the Retooled Community Support Program (RCSP). At night, military ransacked farmers'

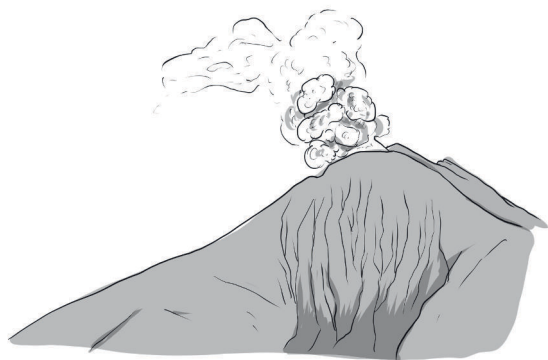
houses and threatened them with fake arrest warrants to force them to surrender as 'NPA members.' In Brgy. Inayawan, the 15th IB threatened the 11-year old child of Arman Dolentina and soldiers forcibly searched his house last April 7.

Meanwhile, military presence remained from May until now in Brgy. Payauan proper, Candoni and Sitio Montilo, Brgy. Pinggot, Ilog and barangays Malucahoc and Camindagan, Sipalay City, all of Negros Occidental.

In Central Negros, since April, the 62nd IB continues its military operations in peasant communities. They forcibly entered households despite the refusal of residents and forced residents to attend meetings, interrogated and threatened them, and also set up checkpoints.

Aside from terror sowed by military operations of combined troops of the 62nd IB and 2nd NOCPMFC last April in barangays Quintin Remo, Montilla, and Macagahay, Moises Padilla and Brgy. Sandayao, Guihulngan City, it also resulted in the depletion of potable water for drinking and household use amid the lack of water due to the *El Niño* phenomenon and the distance from their water source. **AP**





## NPA Negros aids victims of Kanlaon Volcano eruption

THE APOLINARIO GATMAITAN COMMAND-NEW People's Army, regional command of NPA Negros Island (AGC-NPA), ordered all its guerilla units to lead efforts to gather support from revolutionary organizations, various sectors and allies for immediate aid to victims of the Mt. Kanlaon eruption last June 3.

While the people are still dealing with the effects of the *El Niño* phenomenon, their suffering worsened with the volcanic eruption. The phreatic eruption emitted thick smoke up to 5,000 meters resulting in ashfall and lahar flooding the next day and the following days. Residents of Canlaon City, Negros Oriental as well as La Carlota City

and the towns of La Castellana, Moises Padilla, Isabela, Binalbagan, Hinigaran and Pontevedra in Negros Occidental were affected.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) immediately issued an Alert Level 2 status of Mt. Kanlaon. PHIVOLCS also warned of a possible phreatic eruption of the volcano.

Ka Maoche Legislador, spokesperson of AGC-NPA, said, "Negrosanons must collectively demand for just compensation from the reactionary government for damages sustained by the people

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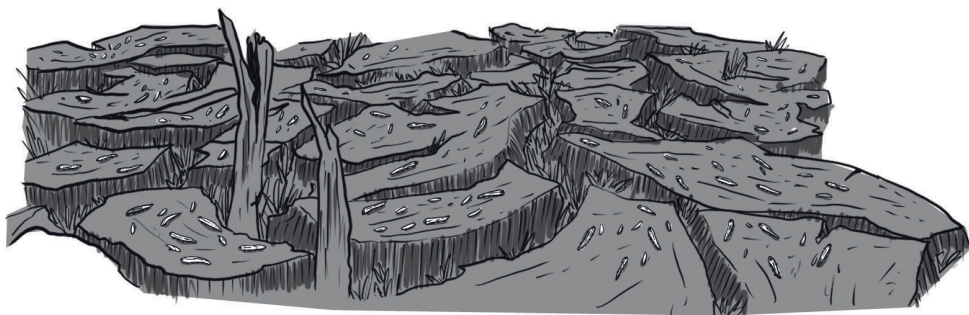
*"Armyworm..." from page 5*

"If the influx of armyworms is not promptly addressed and stopped, it is estimated that it will quickly spread to other farms in neighboring towns of Negros Occidental," said PKM-Negros.

PKM-Negros also added that it is necessary to provide assistance to farmers affected by *El Niño* and now pests so that they can recover their livelihoods and overcome impending extreme hunger and poverty that will hit the island.

According to the National Democratic Front (NDF)-Negros, almost 16,000 farmers, farm workers and fisherfolk on Negros Island were affected by the dry season and extreme heat during the year-long *El Niño* phenomenon.

Based on reactionary government data, damage of the dry season to the agricultural



sector in Negros Occidental has reached ₱518.8 million, while it has amounted to ₱2.4 billion in Negros Oriental.

For NDF Negros, the US-Marcos II regime has more promises than actual aid for the people.

"The cooperation between the masses and Red fighters has garnered much more compared to the lies and empty promises of the reactionary government," Ka Bayani Obrero, NDF-Negros spokesperson, said.

NDF-Negros called for collective action among patriotic and progressive individuals and organizations, and peasants.

PKM-Negros also called on the US-Marcos regime to not only prepare for war against China but to be more concerned as well with the situation of the broad farmers especially in Negros Island who currently need government attention and assistance. **AP**

## Poldets' situation in prison

THE EXPLOITATIVE RULING SYSTEM INDEED oppress the people engaged in struggle, even poldets (political detainees), or revolutionaries and activists long stranded in prison.

There are over 130 poldets throughout Negros Island. Majority were charged with three to four cases each to prolong their imprisonment. In fact, seven of them are facing 13 to 20 charges, not only in Negros Island, but also in Bohol (a place they have never set foot in). Here, "planting" short firearms (which is bailable but usually not less than ₱120,000), and also grenades, rifle grenades and other explosives (that is unbailable) is a common practice. Based on reactionary court data itself, almost all poldets (or 93 percent) were denied their right to bail.

The very delayed trial of cases is glaring especially in the situation wherein more than half of all poldets in Negros were arrested in 2019-2021, or in the first three years of the implementation of Duterte's Memorandum Order 32 that imposed a de facto martial law in mountain barangays. This very slow process of trial is also the reason that there are three poldets in Guihulngan City Jail who remain imprisoned since 2007, yet until now, the court has not decided their case.

It has been tradition since martial law years that poldets are defended by human rights lawyers, or by lawyers capable of defending human rights. But their ranks were greatly reduced here in Negros after the NTF-Elcac launched an onslaught and "salvaged" them, like Atty. Ben Ramos killed in Kabankalan City in 2018, and Atty. Anthony Trinidad murdered in Guihulngan City in 2019. There was a time when human rights lawyers of Panay helped in Negros, but it stopped after Panay-based people's lawyer Atty. Karlo Guillen survived a stab in the head in 2021.

Due to intense red-tagging and even killing of human rights lawyers, more than half of poldets in Negros are forced to receive legal services from reactionary government lawyers. Despite being free of charge, these lawyers are vulnerable to pressure from the NTF-Elcac, while some of them supposedly advocate for poldets but secretly follows the decision of the NTF-Elcac.

Because of this rotten and fascist system, some poldets were forced to enter plea bargains, or change their original plea—from "not guilty" to "guilty"—just to end to their cases and be handed a shorter sentence. Some may possibly be released immediately through probation, where within two years, they will be required to report monthly to the reactionary government and be obligated not to leave as if prisoners in their own place.

Typically, poldets reject the so-called plea bargain. Why? First, through this, activists and revolutionaries can be implicated every time there is a bad incident in their

"NPA Negros..." from page 6

from successive calamities because of the slow response of the Marcos Jr regime."

Farmers' crops were covered in ash and residents lost drinkable and clean water due to the ashfall. There are 8,580 families or 29,739 individuals who evacuated from 25 barangays in two provinces. Damages to the agricultural sector was no less than ₱11 million in Negros Occidental and ₱139 million in Negros Oriental.

The Negros Occidental Provincial Veterinary Office (PVO) on July 2 also reported that as many as 4,764 livestock such as chickens, swine, cows and carabaos died from respiratory infection and indigestion caused by volcanic gases.

The Pambansang Katipunan ng Magbubukid (PKM)-Negros called for immediate response to the demand for immediate repair of homes and livelihoods, and food aid and other needs of residents affected by Mt. Kanlaon's eruption.

Meanwhile, Red fighters of the Leonardo Panaligan Command-Central Negros Guerrilla Front (LPC-NPA) alongside the masses helped with the efforts to rehabilitate peasant livelihoods through *dagyaw-alayon* system (mutual aid) in planting crops, cleaning wells, searching for potable water for daily use, and others.

Due to successive calamities that aggravate landlessness and hunger of Negrosanons, Ka Maoche clarified the "need to wage agrarian revolution, a component of armed struggle, to solve centuries long feudal and semi-feudal oppression and exploitation on the island." *AP*

# Political prisoners urge investigation on human rights violations in Negros

ONE HUNDRED POLITICAL PRISONERS IN Negros Island fasted on April 19 to call on the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) National Office to push the office's initial efforts for the thorough investigation of numerous human rights violations in Negros since July 2022 which is believed to be a significant part of the anti-insurgency campaign of the Marcos Jr regime on the island.

Currently, there are over 130 political prisoners on Negros Island or 16 percent of the total number in the entire country.

Political prisoners also called for an investigation into the on-

going disappearance of Lyn-grace Marturillas, daughter of political prisoner Mary Joy En-yong, and two other young men after they were abducted on April 19, 2023 in Hinigaran, Negros Occidental with National Democratic Front (NDF) consultant Rogelio Posadas.

It is a big question for the political prisoners why NDF consultant Rogelio Posadas was declared as a casualty in a dubious encounter between the military and the NPA in Binalbagan, Negros Occidental the next day, while Marturillas and two motor taxi drivers Renald Delos Santos and Denald Mialen remain missing.

Meanwhile, Bishop Gerardo Alminaza, vice president of Caritas Philippines, Episcopal Commission on Social Action, Justice and Peace of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), said that the government should heed the political prisoners in Negros Island who are calling for truth and accountability in their cases.

Alminaza pushed for immediate attention to the situation and called for an investigation into the increasing tensions, alleged injustices, and alarming violations of human rights. *AP*



*"Poldets'..." from page 7*

community even if it is baseless. Second, the cases filed against poldets are completely untrue and are only based on fabricated evidence, which is reinforced by paid witnesses. Third and above all, it is the right and duty of every nationalist or

revolutionary Filipino to, at the very least, criticize, or even resist, an oppressive and anti-people government. *AP*

*(In the next issue: Poldets' resolute spirit to serve the people)*



## Party, NPA 55th anniversary celebrated

PARTY MEMBERS AND CADRES, AND Red fighters and commanders in the guerrilla fronts commemorated the 55th anniversary of the Party and New People's Army, last December 26, 2023 and March 29, by conducting study meetings and discussions, and cultural activities amid intense focused military operations and duplicitous Re-tooled Community Support Programs of reactionary forces.

Messages from the Central Committee and the Negros Island Regional Party Committee (NIRPC) for the anniversary of

the Party and the NPA were collectively studied.

In one guerilla front, Red fighters and basic Party organizations in the localities studied some basic Party documents like "Our Urgent Tasks" and "Specific Characteristics of our People's War" based on the call of the rectification movement. Meanwhile, in another guerrilla front, a month-long program was conducted to study *Rebolusyon*, the Party's theoretical journal, where it was linked to lessons from the revolutionary experience of said front and

some lessons from the Intermediate Party Course and the Basic Principles of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism by Comrade Jose Maria Sison.

In the cultural programs for the celebration of the 55th anniversary of the Party and NPA, a few moments of silence were observed to honor the martyrs and heroes of the revolution in Negros Island and the entire revolutionary movement. Party members and cadres in the ranks of the NPA and the localities also retook their oaths in front of the Party banner. *RP*



## 2 Escalante martyrs honored

HIGHEST HONORS WERE GIVEN BY Red commanders and fighters of the Roselyn Jean Pelle Command-Northern Negros Guerrilla Front of the New People's Army (RJPC-NPA) and the entire revolutionary forces in Northern Negros for the martyrdom of Ka Jandy (Emarie Pastidio), 27, and Ka Jorge (Joshua Sultan), 19, in an encounter between 79th IB troops and the NPA last February 21 at Sitio Mansulao, Brgy. Pinapugasan, Escalante City, Negros Occidental.

The Makabayang Kilusan ng Bagong Kababaihan (MAKIBAKA)-Negros also saluted Ka Jandy for her courage and determination as a revolutionary woman and mother who fought for women emancipation from the macho society and the eradication of various forms of abuses by the ruling class.

Ka Jandy was arrested twice by the 79th IB. In 2018, she was arrested with a fellow cultural organizer in Escalante City and brought to the 79th IB headquarters in Sagay City, Negros Occidental where she was subjected to torture. She was arrested again in January 2021 when she was on medical leave after giving birth. She was tortured and raped by soldiers. Ka Jandy was able to escape on the 10th day of her detention.

Meanwhile, the 79th IB took then two-month old Baby Marx Cairo Salino when Ka Jandy was

forced to leave her baby at a residence in Talisay City where she rested before her abduction. Until now, the child is a captive of the NTF-Elcac. Baby Marx was held hostage to pressure Ka Jandy and her Red fighter husband to surrender. Ka Jandy was martyred without seeing her child again.

MAKIBAKA-Negros called on peace and human rights advocates, including women's associations, to support the campaign for the release of Baby Marx.

Meantime, the 79th IB fabricated eight fake encounters from February 22 to 23. This included the 10 bombings of a portion of the Trangkal Range in Sitio Mansulao last February 22 in the morning and the evening airstrike in the same sitio. At least five rockets were dropped and strafing occurred using machine guns aboard two Agusta Westland 109 Nighthawk attack helicopters.

Relatives of Jose Caramihan, a farmer and resident of Sitio Mansulao who was killed by 79th IB troops, are also demanding justice. Caramihan was planting rice while the encounter ensued on February 21. His relatives strongly denied the accusation of the 79th IB that he was an NPA casualty killed in the encounter. The RJPC-NPA also clarified that Caramihan was not a NPA member. *RP*

## First anniversary of Ka Rogelio Posadas' martyrdom saluted

ALL PARTY CADRES AND MEMBERS in Negros, Red fighters and commanders under the Apolinario Gatmaitan Command-New People's Army Negros Island (AGC-NPA) and the entire revolutionary forces on Negros Island honored the first anniversary of the martyrdom of Ka Rogelio Posadas, more commonly known as Ka Cocoy, last April 20.

The Roselyn Jean Pelle Command-NPA Northern Negros Front (RJPC-NPA) conducted a silent 21-gun salute followed by various programs with the masses, while Party groups and branches in northern Negros held "simple yet fruitful clandestine activities amid intelligence and combat operations launched by the enemy."

According to Ka Cecil Estrella, RJPC-NPA spokesperson, "as a communist leader, strategist and tactician of the people's army, Ka Cocoy became a guide in advancing the people's war in northern Negros for many years."

Ka JB Regalado, Leonardo Panaligan Command-NPA Central Negros Front (LPC-NPA) spokesperson, added in a separate statement that Ka Cocoy's character of having close ties with the masses and his revolutionary optimism together with scientific courage in the difficult struggle against the previous regimes and especially the current US-Marcos Jr regime is exemplary to young Red fighters and commanders, Party members and communist leaders, and the entire revolutionary forces in Central Negros.

Ka Cocoy was a valiant Party leader, Ka Estrella Banagbanag, Rachelle Mae Palang Command-NPA Southeast Negros Front spokesperson, said. "He was an ardent student of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism which he used well in the particularities of the revolutionary situation on Negros island as the secretary of the Negros Island Regional Party Committee in 2019."

Meanwhile, for Ka Dionisio Magbuelas, spokesperson of the Mt. Canseron Command-NPA South Central Negros Front, the name of Ka Cocoy is etched in the history of Negros not only because of his great contribution to the island's struggle, but also due to his resolute standpoint, viewpoint, and vigorous Party leadership during the crests and troughs of the revolution.

In a statement by the Armando Sumayang Jr Command-NPA Southwest Negros Front through its spokesperson Ka Andrea Guerrero, remem-



bering the death of Ka Rogelio Posadas is a continuous call for justice for all victims of fascism of the reactionary state through intensifying the people's war on Negros island.

It could be recalled that Ka Cocoy was brutally murdered by the 94th IB on April 20, 2023 in Binalbagan, Negros Occidental, after he was abducted by reactionary state forces along Isabela-Hinigaran road, Negros Occidental on April 19, 2023 in the afternoon with Lyngrace Marturillas and two other young motor taxi drivers Renel Delos Santos and Denald Mialen. Until now, the three are being sought by their relatives. *AP*





*"Without revolutionary theory,  
there can be no revolutionary movement"  
—a fundamental principle in Party building*

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS STATEMENT by Comrade Lenin, the great communist leader of the Russian revolution, cannot be ignored. This fundamental principle of building a proletarian party resounds and permeates through the entire history of the world proletarian revolution.

Comrade Marx and Engels first saw the significant role of revolutionary theory in the struggle of the German proletariat in the 19th century. This was developed and deepened by Comrade Lenin in the practice of revolutionary struggle of the Russian proletariat in the 20th century.

In his book "What is to be done?" in 1901, he established the correct quality of a proletarian party as the organized detachment of the proletarian class, which should possess a powerful revolutionary theory amid its struggle with reformists and economists who wanted to subordinate the Party to the reigning Tsar. From there, the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party (RSDLP) became a powerful political party of the Russian proletariat in the midst of contradicting with

various opportunists and classical revisionists of this time including those who dominated the Second International.

Indeed, Comrade Lenin systematized this in the simple formulation that "without revolutionary theory, there can be no revolutionary movement" and it became a solid foundational principle for Party building. Here, he explicated that Party building means building ideology. In this same principle, Comrade Mao established the principle of rectification movement as a key ideological task in the face of major errors, weaknesses, and especially deviations in the ideological, political, and organizational (IPO) line of the whole body of the Party.

Cadres and members of the Communist Party of the Philippines have been truthfully and diligently living this basic principle in Party building since it was reestablished in 1968 to this day. Cadres and members of the Party cherish the powerful revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism which will lead to the complete victory of the national democratic revolution until the construction of socialism and communism throughout the world.

Grasping firmly the proletarian revolutionary spirit of Comrades Marx, Engels, Lenin and Mao, the CPP launched two rectification movements as key ideological task to oppose occurring errors, weaknesses, and deviations in the field of ideology, politics, and organization. And it is now in the third rectification movement.

The FGRM or First Great Rectification Movement was launched in 1968 against the revisionism of the Lava and Taruc group in the 1940s to the 1960s. Meanwhile, the SGRM or Second Great Rectification Movement in 1992 focused on the opportunism and revisionism of the Kintanar-Tabara-Lagman-Reyes-Rocamora group in the 1980s.





## News on the Island

### Peasants, farm workers unite against land use conversion, quarrying, SPLIT program

Peasants and farm workers led by Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP)-Negros held a two-day camp-out in front of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Region 6 office last January 23 to 24. They conducted a simultaneous picket rally and dialogue with DAR officials on the issue of land use conversion, reclassification, and the SPLIT program.

On the night of the first day, a tribute was held for slain peasant leader Alexander Ceballos, who is also the first victim of extrajudicial killings under the previous Duterte regime. Peasants and farm workers pledged to continue their struggle for genuine land reform, despite continuous state attacks among their ranks.

On March 26, farmers also commemorated the Day of the Landless through a picket march and dialogue with the Provincial Environment Management Office on the issue of quarrying, that threatens to displace and increases the risk of flooding among farmer communities. Through the dialogue, quarry operations at Hacienda Vista Alegre, Brgy. E. Lopez, Silay City, Negros Occidental and the expansion toward upland quarry at Hacienda Paquit in the same barangay were halted.

### Thousand lights for salary increase held by Negros Occidental teachers

Thousands of teachers led by ACT Teachers-Negros conducted a candle-lighting protest for salary increase during a na-

tionally coordinated action at the Fountain of Justice in Bacolod City, Negros Occidental last April 25.

Teachers from various public and private schools all over Negros Occidental urged Pres. Marcos Jr to grant salary increases to all teachers, including ₱50,000 for teachers with salary grade 1.

This followed the 2,000-strong march rally of ACT Teachers on the issue of salary increase in Bacolod City last March 8.

### Broad alliance against charter change launched

Last February 10, a broad alliance of democratic forces convened the People's Coalition

for Democracy Negros (PCDN) in a forum on Charter Change last February 8. Among the convenors is former Negros Occidental Governor Lito Coscolluela.

PCDN spearheaded the EDSA Commemoration on February 25, where they launched their primer about the railroad Charter Change.

Youth convenors of PCDN also held a Charter Change forum attended by over 700 students at Binalbagan Catholic College last March 9. The forum was led by Kabataan Party-list Representative Raoul Manuel, where he stressed the negative effects of charter change on the already-ailing educational system.

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NegrosRevPortal

*"Without..." from page 11*

Today, the CPP is in the third rectification movement called by the Central Committee in December 2023. The Party clarified that there is no deviation in the ideological, political, and organizational line, but emerging IPO errors since the 2000s must be subjected to a rectification movement. The error of subjectivism in the form of empiricism; the political error that is right opportunism in the form of conservatism, reformism, legalism, and NGOism; and the organizational error in the form of bureaucratism and ultrademocracy became the cause of greatly imbalanced development of armed struggle in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, and the major weaknesses and setbacks in some key aspects of revolutionary struggle from the 2000s up to now.

The entire Party, the people's army and all revolutionary forces throughout Negros Island are united launching the third rectification movement. This is a critical step in IPO consolidation and restrengthening of the Party to effectively lead the national democratic revolution through protracted people's war until total victory and socialist construction ahead. **RP**



"News..." from page 12

**Opposition to Banago reclamation continues**

Banago Against Reclamation Movement (BARM) leaders attended a technical meeting with Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) and Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) Region 6 officials to discuss the findings of their initial investigation on landfilling operations of Vladimir Gonzales on the coastline of Brgy. Banago, Bacolod City.

The major finding was that it was a reclamation, not land "restoration," as previously asserted by Gonzales.

Right after, BARM initiated a petition signing in view of the findings and sent it to the Provincial Environment Management Office (PEMO) Region 6. In April, they also lobbied in the Sangguniang Panglungsod to as-

sert their indignation on the reclamation.

Until today, operations have halted but more than a hectare of land was already reclaimed.

**Negros drivers campaign against sham modernization program**

More than 700 drivers from Bacolod City joined the protest-caravan against the proposed January 30 deadline for the consolidation of traditional jeepneys last January 16. Despite the deadline extension, the drivers continued their campaign.

The United Drivers and Operators Center (UNDOC) Piston expanded their campaign to Talisay City drivers, as the local government is also planning to implement a local route plan affecting traditional jeepneys. They held a LGU dialogue last January 19.


Various educational discussions were conducted by UNDOC Piston regarding neoliberal roots of the modernization program, including a room-to-room campaign inside University of St. La Salle (USLS) in over 20 college and senior high classrooms last February.

To further strengthen solidarity among Western Visayas drivers, the NO TO PUV PHASE-OUT COALITION WV was established last March 17 in Bacolod City.

In April 30, the new deadline for consolidation, over 3,000 drivers attended the transport strike and vigil which continued until the next day, May 1, to commemorate Labor Day with a protest-caravan alongside workers and other sectors under the banner of the United Labor Alliance in Negros (ULAN).

**Negrosanons protest rising cost of commodities and basic services**

Consumers and illegally re-trenched employees of the Bacolod City Water District (BACIWA) held a picket rally in front of the BACIWA-Primewater office to protest poor services and high prices of the water district.

In June, consumers and employees of the Central Negros Electric Cooperative (CENECO) also held a Black Friday Protest in front of the CENECO office in Bacolod City to denounce the ₱3.26 per kilowatt hour price hike. In Hinigaran town, a 1,000-strong protest rally was also launched amid exorbitant power rates of the Negros Occidental Electric Cooperative (NOCECO), where the rate increased to ₱17.9605 per kWh in May from ₱14.6309 the previous month. 



Landlessness:

Root of worsening crisis and terrorism on Negros Island

THE COUNTRY IS CLASSIFIED AS agricultural, but the reactionary government neglects farmers who comprise the majority of the Filipino population. They are the primary force in tilling the land yet they are the ones who often suffer from hunger and poverty due to the lack of a genuine land reform program and subsidies necessary to improve production even when they are facing natural calamities and environmental devastation.

Land monopoly on the island has subsisted for several centuries that chained Negrosanons to hunger and poverty. Out of the island's 1.3 million hectares, 818,991 hectares are privately owned of which 665,193 hectares, spanning 10 hectares up, are in the hands of only 24 percent of landlords while the rest, ranging less than 10 hectares, are owned by 76 percent of landlords. The big landlord-compradors on Negros island produce almost 70 percent of sugar in the country.

The reality of the land problem has become even more brutal with imperialist US-

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The Philippine Army shows **OUTRIGHT HUBRIS** in declaring its counter-insurgency campaign as victorious throughout Negros **DESPITE 15 fake encounters** on the island from **January to June 2024** that **COVERED UP** cases of **killings, bombings, air strikes, and indiscriminate firing.**





"Landlessness..." from page 14

sanctioned liberalization, be it on sugar or other agricultural products. It is ironic that farmers are forced to plant export crops while the Filipino people rely on imported products. Through this, the livelihood of the peasant class is gradually deteriorating due to state neglect of agriculture development that sustains the national economy.

Under the sugar monocrop industry in Negros where the hacienda system dwells, the main problem is the prevalence of injustice. Landlessness has pushed the toiling class to sell their labor power as farm workers, the sector that receives the lowest wages.

The *pakyaw* (piecemeal) system wherein the total amount to be paid is based on per hectare work regardless of how many people or how many days it takes to finish is the prevailing work condition. A farm worker usually working for eight hours a day per week earns a net income of ₱2,000-₱2,100 during milling season while ₱900-₱1,000 on off-milling season. This is extremely low compared to the ₱1,011 per day family living wage needed to sustain a Negrosanon family with five members.

It is crystal clear that the reactionary government will never support the people's interests, especially that of the toiling classes, because it is the main promoter of oppressive and exploitative programs. Various reactionary state agencies are instruments in the imposition of anti-people policies.

A prime example is the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) which supposedly implements free land distribution for the livelihood of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs). The Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) was used, and now the Support to Parcelization of Lands for Individual Titling (SPLIT) program, as facade program to calm the raging anger of the masses. CARP, on its 36th year last June 10, is considered to be the longest, most expensive, and most exploitative land reform program.

The SPLIT program and the New Agrarian Emancipation Act (NAEA) are twin schemes of the US-Marcos II regime that expedite the restoration of vast tracts of land to the hands of big landlord-compradors.

The World Bank funded the SPLIT program with \$370 million to be paid by the reactionary government within 29-39.5 years. By distributing individual titles, the World Bank hopes that ARBs will be further pushed to use their land titles as collateral for loans, and sell or lease their land. Under the system dominated by the ruling class,

farmers will surely be squeezed more to yield their land titles.

Marcos Jr signed the NAEA last July 6, 2023. He currently uses it to glorify himself as an advocate of land reform. But in fact, Marcos Jr's land distribution is superficial and even his pride NAEA because eventually it still leads to control or ownership of land by old and new landlords, in cahoots with *arendadors* (leaseholders) and usurers.

It is obvious that the SPLIT program and NAEA facilitates the US-Marcos II regime's push for oil palm plantations, ecotourism and "renewable energy" projects, destructive mining and quarrying expansion, and numerous infrastructure and reclamation projects throughout Negros island along with full-scale liberalization of agricultural imports that will satiate the greed of the ruling class with the profits they take.

Negrosanons are aware that the livelihoods introduced by neoliberal projects are but fleeting and does not solve the protracted needs of the people to survive. Due to hunger and poverty, Negrosanons uphold their right to land, wages, benefits, humane work conditions, right to unionize, and so on. These initiatives are people's steps toward achieving economic justice that they deserve.

However, instead of addressing the people's demands, the state responds with fascism. People who engage in struggles suffer from threats to life, intimidation, forced surrenders, abduction, torture, and extrajudicial killings. The National Task Force (NTF)-Elcac became the instrument of the reactionary state in unleashing terrorism among the people to douse the fire of their resistance.

Amid the worsening land problem as a result of the neoliberal offensive and the ongoing oppression and exploitation in the monocrop sugar industry on Negros Island, it is imperative to establish, expand and strengthen mass organizations, and collective action and resistance of the peasant and working classes. Anti-farmer policies and neoliberal schemes promoted by the US-Marcos Jr regime must be vigorously exposed and opposed.

The combined strength, courage and determination of Negrosanons will overthrow the oppressive and exploitative landlords, big comprador bourgeoisie and bureaucrat capitalists who sold the nation to foreigners. This will solidify the people's basis to wage armed struggle that is primarily a peasant war advanced by the New People's Army. *AP*



## NPA-Western Samar mounts tactical offensives

ON JUNE 23, THE ARNULFO Ortiz Command-New People's Army Western Samar (AOC-NPA) harassed fascist soldiers of the 87th IB in Brgy. Nagbac, Jiabong, Samar. Sgt. Leo Jabinar was killed in the NPA offensive.

Meanwhile, Red fighters of the AOC-NPA sniped troops of the 87th IB who were encamped at Sitio San Pedro, Brgy. Poblacion 3, San Jose de Buan, Samar, last June 9, to establish a detachment in the area. Corporal Marvin Calvintos was killed as the people's army rained bullets on soldiers, while several others were wounded.

On May 14, at 9:00 in the morning, a unit of the AOC-NPA ambushed 3rd IB troops who were leaving their camp in Brgy. Gayondato, San Jorge, Western Samar to take a bath. An R4 rifle was seized in the ambush, while a soldier was killed and another was wounded.

In the same month before the ambush, the AOC-NPA also harassed the CAFGU camps in Brgy. Santo Niño, Motiong and Brgy. San Fernando, Jia-bong, all in Samar, resulting in the deaths of a regular soldier and a CAFGU element.

Samar Island has long been militarized by the 8th ID. The military are atrocious, for example, they bombed mountainous areas of San Jose de Buan to avenge the Red fighters' sniping operation against their troops. Cases of bombings, indiscriminate firing, food and livelihood blockade, and sexual abuses by soldiers are also widespread on the island. **AP**



## 61st IB airstrikes Iloilo town

RESIDENTS OF TOROCADAN, DONJON, AND Langca, barangays in San Joaquin town, 55 kilometers from Iloilo City, were awakened last February 28 when they heard explosions and felt the ground tremble around 3:00 in the morning.

The 61st IB airstriking mountainous parts of said barangays using no less than four fighter jets that dropped 500-pound bombs. This was followed by helicopters strafing the area and artillery bombardment.

BGen. Michael Samson, 61st IB commander, belied the airstrike and insisted that they conducted a "direct strike" using cannons after an encounter between their troops and the NPA in Brgy. Lomboyon.

However, residents and the barangay captain of Lomboyon himself stand by their claim that they witnessed jet fighters dropping bombs.

Three Red fighters were reportedly martyred in the aforementioned bombing. **AP**



## 47th IB, PNP murder 5 hors de combat rebels in Bohol

COMBINED TROOPS OF THE 47TH IB and Philippine National Police (PNP) brutally murdered five Red fighters, namely Domingo Compoc (Ka Si-long/Laser), Alberto Sancho (Ka Juaning), Hannah Jay Cesista (Ka Maya), Parlito Segovia (Ka Aldrin), and Marlon Omosura (Ka Darwin) last February 23 in the morning, at Sitio Matin-ao 2, Brgy. Campagao, Bilar, Bohol.

The five were still alive when arrested by soldiers and police. They were tortured, made to roll in the mud, and then shot to death except Ka Laser. Ka Laser was stabbed in the neck and his stomach was slashed, causing his death. Before he was killed, a picture was taken of Ka Laser with his hands tied behind and in the custody of a soldier.

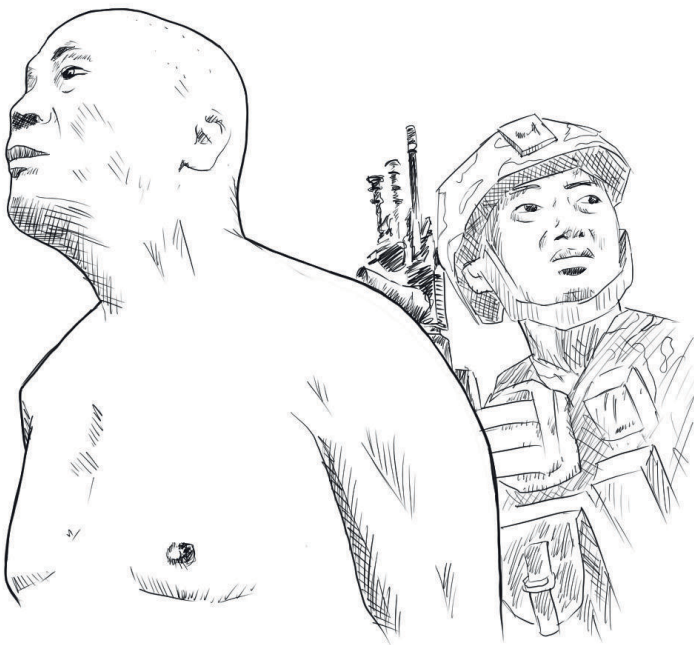
The military and police claimed that the five Red fighters were killed in an encounter, but residents firmly insisted that there was no encounter.

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in a statement vehemently condemned the massacre of the five Red fighters committed by the 47th IB and PNP. According to Ka Marco Valbuena, Chief Information Officer of the CPP, the AFP and PNP leadership, especially Marcos himself, must be held accountable for their war crimes and they should be prosecuted and punished.

The Apolinario Gatmaitan Command-New People's Army Negros Island (AGC-NPA) also joined in condemning the crimes of the 47th IB and PNP. It honored Ka Laser and Ka Juaning for

their contributions to the advance of the revolutionary movement on Negros Island.

Meanwhile, Kabataang Makabayan (KM)-Negros saluted Ka Maya for her dedication to serving the oppressed and exploited masses. She was a lawyer but chose to join the armed struggle. *AP*



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## Court dismisses charges against 2 dead HR defenders

ON JUNE 24, REGIONAL TRIAL Court-Branch 74 in Cebu City dismissed charges of terrorist financing against two deceased human rights defenders.

Deceased progressives Geraldine Labradores and Msgr. Merlin Logronio were among 27 activists and development workers associated with the Community Empowerment Resource Network (CERNET) who were charged by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) for violating Republic Act 10168, or Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act of 2012.

According to Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights (KARAPATAN) Central Visayas, if the DOJ and AFP did not hastily pursue CERNET, a genuine non-government organization that aids various people's organizations since 2001, "the evil duo (DOJ and

AFP) would have learned that Labradores and Logronio have already succumbed to illnesses before they resolved to raise their manufactured charge against these highly respected individuals in court in May."

Karapatan Central Visayas is confident that in the end, the trumped-up charges of the DOJ and AFP against development workers will "ultimately meet its rightful fate in the junkyard of history." *AP*



## Red Salute!

# Tabugon5: Remembered and cherished by the oppressed and exploited masses

IN THIS ARTICLE, WE RECALL the lives of five hors de combat Red fighters massacred by the 47th IB while riding a rented tricycle on the road along Sitio Lubi, Brgy. Tabugon, Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental, on September 21, 2023 in the evening. Among those killed was the driver of their rented tricycle.

Ka Rekoy, Ka Goring, and Ka Joyce were medical staff from the Armando Sumayang Jr Command-New People's Army (ASJC-NPA), while 6-months pregnant Ka Diane was on medical leave with her husband, Ka Bravo.

They actively and enthusiastically served their comrades and the masses. Remembered and cherished, their contributions to the revolution will forever be engrained in the minds of the broad exploited and oppressed masses.

### Ka Rekoy

Ka Rekoy (Bobby Perez), over 30 years old, was born in Brgy. Gatuslao, Candoni, Negros Occidental. He hailed from the poor peasant class. While attending school, he burned charcoal to help with the needs of his family. Ka Rekoy became a Kabataang Makabayan (KM) member in the locality.

When Ka Rekoy committed to becoming a full-time Red fighter in 2009, he fervently performed his tasks. He became part of the production committee, became a squad leader, and later, a medical staff.

Ka Rekoy was passionate and fond of cultural work. He was known for his love of playing the guitar and also composing revolutionary songs and poems. He was also adept with political work and the mass line.

### Ka Goring

Ka Goring (Mario Mullan), 60, was born in Brgy. Bulwangan, San Carlos City, Negros Occidental to a poor peasant family. In 2005, his entire family moved to Candoni. Their main source



of income is farming and working in sugarcane fields.

Eldest of six siblings, Ka Goring grew up in a revolutionary family. He was not able to attend school because he helped in their family's livelihood. Ka Goring was married and has three children.

Ka Goring became a full-time Red fighter during the 80's and then took a rest from revolutionary work. He reconnected with comrades in 2002 and returned to full-time work in 2011.

Ka Goring was a medical officer and has helped many comrades and the masses. He was a hard-working, soft-spoken and kindhearted comrade. He was always worried for comrades and the masses, especially regarding health. He was fond of reading books, particularly on medical topics. He was also very capable with the mass line.

### Ka Joyce

Ka Joyce (Janice Flores), 22, hailed from the peasant class in Brgy. Buenavista, Himamaylan City, Negros Occidental. She graduated from

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elementary and worked as a domestic helper for a time.

It was in 2020 when she decided to work full-time after her integration with the NPA along with many youth in their area. She got married in the NPA and had one child.

Ka Joyce was meek, but easy to talk to because she was cheerful, while also industrious and up to any task. She became a squad political guide and then a member of the medical staff.

**Ka Bravo**

Comrade Bravo (Alejo de los Reyes), 28, was born in Brgy. Buenavista, Guihulngan City, Negros Oriental. He came from the lower-middle peasant class. They were five siblings, three males and two females. Ka Bravo helped in his family's farm before becoming a motor taxi driver for additional income. He became a KM member in the locality.

Ka Bravo became a full-fledged Red fighter in 2016 and was deployed to southern Negros in 2017. During his seven years of full-time service to the masses, he became a squad leader and eventually, vice platoon leader. Ka Bravo was playful with comrades but serious when carrying

out revolutionary tasks.

Ka Bravo was brave in confronting the enemy and showed concern especially for the health of comrades. He overcame the persuasion of his family to abandon his tasks because he was conscious of the correctness and justness of the revolution.

Ka Bravo was killed with his pregnant wife, Ka Diane.

**Ka Diane**

Ka Diane (Melissa de la Peña), 21, was born on October 19, 2001 in Brgy. Inayawan, Cauayan, Negros Occidental. She came from the rich peasant class, and was involved in copra production in their coconut farm and in tending to their livestock. Her family was influenced by the revolutionary movement. Ka Diane finished Grade 9.

Ka Diane became a full-time fighter in 2020. She was hard-working, helpful and tireless in doing her tasks. She was open to suggestions and help from comrades. She enjoyed cooking, studying, and was good in cultural work.

Ka Diane became a PADEPA instructor, a platoon finance and logistics officer (FLO) and later on, a platoon medical officer. *RP*



*Mga Bituon*

ni Ka Sisa

*Nagabanaag ka sa kagab-ihon  
Sa dalan nga amon bagtason  
Kaangay sa suga nga indi mapalong  
Kasisidmon...kaagahon nangin iwag ka namon.*

*Ikaw ang kalibutanon nga kaalam sa amon  
pagpadayon  
Bisan pa man sa sakripisyo, kabudlayan kag  
kamatayon  
Maga-usbong kag magabun-ag sang mga bag-o  
nga lapsag  
Matinggas nga binhi para sa amon buasdamlag.*

*Sila magasugpon, maghimakas kag magpanday  
Sang isa ka balay nga sulhay kag mahilway  
Gikan sa daan, mapi-ot, gamay kag mabudlay  
Mapaluntad ang puluy-an nga may pagka-alalangay.*

*Mga bituon, madula ka man, ang  
magapabilin  
Sa pamaagi, panindugan kag panan-awan  
magaserbe  
Sa malapad nga uma kag pusnga sang makina,  
naga-upod ka  
Armasan ang tanan...lupigon ang agalon kag  
kapitalista.*

*Adlaw gab-i ara ka sa amon...mainit ka sa amon  
balatyagon.  
Bug-os nga kalibutan  
ginahanduraw...ginpasidunggan ka  
Bulawanon nga taliba, luthang kag bangkaw  
sang kadam-an ikaw ginatib-ong  
Tubtob kaagahon kag pagpabanag-banag ikaw  
ang amon ginahandum. *RP**





## Medical Advice

# What to do during a volcanic eruption?



**VOLCANIC ERUPTION ENDANGERS PEOPLE'S LIVES** and livelihoods. Volcanic smog causes pulmo-respiratory ailments to humans and animals if they inhale ashfall for a long time. The ash also damages farmers' crops, property, and structures. Like in the recent Kanlaon Volcano eruption last June 3, residents in one city and one town in Negros Oriental and six towns in Negros Occidental were affected. It is important to give guidance to residents on what to do in the event of a volcanic eruption.

### Before ashfall:

- standby for news/updates from authorities on radio, TV and social media when there is an impending volcanic eruption
- prepare an emergency supply kit and make sure it is accessible. These should be in the emergency kit:
  - > first aid kit including medication, water, canned goods, flashlight, extra batteries, battery-operated radio, candles, lighter or matches, whistle, face mask, alcohol, money, knife, rope (not less than 7 meters long)
  - > blankets, clothes, toiletries, children's needs
  - > important documents and list of emergency contacts, know the location of evacuation centers in your area
  - > prepare face masks or clean cloth to cover your nose and goggles to protect the eyes
  - > leave food and water for animals
  - > for those with school children, know the school's emergency plan

### During ashfall:

- Always listen to news/updates regarding the volcanic eruption
- Stay calm. Remain indoors. Cover your nose and mouth using a face mask or damp clean cloth.
- Close all windows and doors, and if you have a vehicle, park it properly.

- Put damp cloth or towels at windows and door openings.
- Keep pets or livestock in their pens or inside the house.
- Wash food thoroughly before cooking and as well as fruits before eating.
- Cover water containers and food properly.
- If necessary to go outside, wear a face mask and goggles to protect your eyes.
- If driving a car, pull to the side of the road while there is heavy ashfall.

### After ashfall:

- Scrape off accumulated ash on rooftops. After this, clean the roof and gutter with water.
- Wash house windows and doors, and vehicles before cleaning with soap and lukewarm water.
- Gather ashes and place them far from water drainages to avoid clogging and water contamination.
- Boil water before drinking.
- Wash grass before feeding livestock.
- Wash clothes covered in ash.
- Clean household items to remove ash. While cleaning, cover your nose and mouth and protect your eyes. **AP**

Reference: DOST-PHIVOLCS